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FM AMEMBASSY MASERU
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2047
INFO RUCNSAD/SOUTHERN AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY
RUEHXX/GENEVA IO MISSIONS COLLECTIVE
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA 0035
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SENSITIVE

FOR IO/T AND AF/S; PASS TO HHS; RANGOON FOR P. MURPHY

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TAGS: AORC TBIO WHO PREL PGOV LT

SUBJECT: SMALLPOX ERADICATION AND RESEARCH

REF: (A) MASERU 228 (B) STATE 71569

11. (SBU) Ambassador reviewed smallpox points again with Minister of Health Phooko on May 16. Regarding "closed door" discussions by the Africa Group in Geneva, the Minister said it was agreed that no one African country would take a position; there would be an African Union (AU) stance (not yet determined) that all member states would follow. The Minister departed for Geneva late May 16; we will meet with him again upon his return and, hopefully, have a fuller read-out of the AU's final paper. (Note: Documents received from HHS were shared with the Minister.)

PERRY